

BRYAN AND REED SEE WORLD HOPE IN HARDING PLAN

Foes of Wilson League Con-
for With President-
Elect at Marion.

POLICY FAST SHAPING

James Speyer, N. Y. Banker,
Discusses Outlook for
Mexican Relations.

GERARD ALSO A VISITOR

Former Ambassador Comments
on Russian Influence Over
Armenia.

Special Dispatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
MARION, Ohio, Dec. 17.—After William J. Bryan, no longer Bryan the politician but Bryan the evangelist, left Marion to-night praising President-elect Harding, Senator James A. Reed of Missouri, one of the irreconcilable foes to the Treaty of Versailles.

Messrs. Hoover, Hughes, Harvey, Root, New, Bryan and Reed seemingly have been impressed by the idea that the President-elect has for a new bond of nations which conceivably may take the place of the futile League of Nations, and for a new practical agreement on material matters to be substituted for the Treaty of Versailles.

That these men of so many distinct shades of opinion appear to have been captivated or influenced agreeably by Senator Harding's world plan is the most interesting development since the election. All have made suggestions. Some indeed have recommended that the framework of the league be preserved, and that an effort be made to enforce the treaty. But others have denounced the league and treaty. All the President-elect's visitors so far see splendid possibilities in the definite plan that he has laid before them.

Offers a Taught Plan.

There is a definite plan. The President-elect is not rambling in fields of speculation. Before he was elected he knew pretty clearly what he intended to seek in the way of a world association such as the United States could enter without sacrifice of sovereignty and without offense to the Constitution. Since then he has been working out details with the men he called to council. It may be weeks before he is ready to make public the nature and scope of the world association plan. He may, indeed, defer announcement of it until after he is inaugurated. The point is, the plan exists tangibly. It is big and constructive. Senator Harding believes it is practical and has because of his visitors earnestly agree with him.

The coming of Messrs. Bryan and Reed in one day had special interest. They are the two men of all the Democratic party who have stood more courageously for principle than has any Democrat since Grover Cleveland. They are the two who have suffered greater attack and more because of devotion to principle than any man since President Cleveland. Mr. Reed defied his party chief and took himself out of his party organization when he would surrender to Wilsonism. Mr. Bryan suffered insult at the San Francisco convention because he defied the Democratic bosses.

Dual Purpose in Visit.

Mr. Bryan had a double purpose in visiting Marion. Invited to confer with Senator Harding, the date was left open so that he could make his visit coincide with the meeting of the laymen's convention of the Marion Presbytery. He attended the session this afternoon with Senator Harding, who is a Baptist. Arriving before noon, Mr. Bryan went at once to the home of the President-elect, punched with him and joined him for a conference of two hours. They discussed, first, Senator Harding's own plan for a world association. Mr. Bryan approved of the plan.

They went into the suggestion that nations by agreement shall pledge themselves never to undertake offensive warfare until peoples interested shall have voted on the proposition. This has been a favorite idea of Mr. Bryan's for many years. Recently he has been in correspondence with Col. George Harvey about this idea, and Senator Harding has had the benefit of the suggestions that were exchanged. The talk covered international problems and domestic issues. At the end Mr. Bryan joined the newspaper correspondents, shaking hands with old friends who had followed his fortunes in more than one national convention and campaign.

Praise for Harding.

He said at once, taking command of the interview in a way characteristic of this old hand at the interviewing game: "I believe Senator Harding is not only an honest man and a conscientious man, but a man whose whole purpose is to do what he believes is best for the American people. It isn't to be expected that everybody will agree on what is best. But if a man wants to do what he thinks is best for the American people will trust him and be hopeful."

Outlining some of his talk with the President-elect, Mr. Bryan said: "Until it was apparent that ratification without reservations was impossible, I spoke for ratification. I pointed out on the third of March last that it should be clearly understood that every nation reserved the right to act as it deemed best, after investigation. I then believed that with the right to withdraw after two years and with the wide influence which we have we could have gained any change we thought necessary after we had entered the league. In this respect my position is unchanged."

I pointed out to my party that we could not afford to make a fight on Article X. I believe that an overwhelming majority of the American people are anxious to have the United States exert the influence which other nations to preserve peace. Few people care what the phraseology may be. Both sides have, I think, exaggerated the importance of phraseology."

Later Senator Harding and Mr. Bryan visited the session of the Presbytery and both spoke a few words in response to friendly greeting. Mr. Bryan said:

"Senator Harding and myself are not

much farther apart politically, on fundamentals, than we are religiously. I will stand back of the man who wants to do his best for his country no matter what party that man belongs to. I consider that kind of a man will make a better President than one of my own party, whose errors might do harm to the country."

James Speyer on Mexico.

Mr. Speyer came to Marion on the same train with Senator Harding. Harry M. Daugherty, who is popularly credited with being Senator Harding's aid in building a Cabinet, Mr. Daugherty pointed out by Mr. Speyer's remarks. Also on the train was James Speyer and former Ambassador James W. Gerard, both of New York.

Mr. Speyer discussed the Mexican situation. It concerns international relations, with Senator Harding. Mr. Speyer's firm is largely interested in Mexican securities, Government and railroad, and Mr. Speyer recalled that thirty years ago he rode on horseback over what were then trails and now are the lines of the Mexican National Railway system.

For seven years, Mr. Speyer said, "there has been no payments of interest on the Mexican national debt or the indebtedness of the National Railways of Mexico. The accumulated arrears of interest aggregate, I should say, \$180,000,000 and \$200,000,000. It is desirable, of course, that credit be reestablished so that these arrears may be cared for and new capital needed by the country for further development. The disposition of the Oregon administration in Mexico, as also of the incoming administration of the United States, is such that we may look to the future of Mexico with a good deal of hopefulness."

Gerard on Near East Conditions.

Senator Harding discussed conditions with Mr. Gerard, who with Henry W. Jessup, who represent the American Committee for the Independence of Armenia.

Senator Harding's principal visitors to-morrow will be Senator Harry New of Indiana and President Nicholas Murray Butler of Columbia University. It is likely, too, that Will H. Hays, chairman of the Republican National Committee, will be among those present.

ONE BIG DRUNK ADVISED FOR A BONE DRY U. S.

But Kramer Sees Flaws in
Fordney's Remedy.

Special Dispatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 17.

A unique way of making the country bone dry and making it unnecessary for the Government to employ an army of guards to watch the 40,000,000 gallons of liquor stored in bonded warehouses was proposed to-day by Representative Fordney (Mich.), chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee.

Federal Commissioner Kramer was before the committee explaining how he was unable to guard bonded liquor with his present force and recommending its concentration in a few warehouses.

Mr. Fordney interrupted to ask this question with chuckle:

"Well, now, brother, don't you think the cheapest way out of this problem for the taxpayers would be to open the warehouses, allow the liquor to be sold, let the toppers have one grand final drink and get rid of it all?"

The committee and spectators, with the exception of one man, joined in applause and laughter. The one man was Wayne B. Wheeler, general counsel for the Anti-Saloon League, who remained dignified and without a smile.

At Christmas and New Year's coming that already has been suggested to the bureau, but we can't find any legal authority for it," Mr. Kramer replied.

Twenty-nine million gallons of liquor have leaked out of bonded warehouses to dampen a presumably dry United States within the last year, according to figures submitted to the committee by Mr. Kramer.

Mr. Kramer said a large share of this amount represented illegal withdrawals. He expressed concern for the future liquor reserves unless a stricter enforcement can be accomplished. At the rate of present withdrawals the bonded supply will be exhausted in about two years.

ANTI-STRIKE BILL VOTE TO BE RECONSIDERED

So Unjust, La Follette Says,
Senators Glad to Kill It.

Special Dispatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

New York Herald Bureau, Washington, D. C., Dec. 17.

Reconsideration of the vote by which the Senate yesterday passed the drastic railroad anti-strike bill of Senator Poinsett will be agreed to without protest from either advocates or opponents, Senator La Follette said to-night he was anxious to have the vote reconsidered, "so as to dispose of the measure."

Senator La Follette, who yesterday made a present against the bill in manner in which the bill was passed, also moved to reconsider. His motion was merely notice to the Senate that he would fight the bill.

When Senator La Follette asks a vote on his motion there will be another test of the sentiment of the Senate on anti-strike legislation. A bare majority already is on record in favor of an anti-strike provision, but in less drastic form than the bill passed yesterday.

"The bill is so unconscionably unjust," said Senator La Follette, "that I do not believe a majority of the Senate will vote for it after it has had a fair hearing and Senators understand its provisions."

WAR MOTHERS GOING ABROAD.

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 17.—Alice M. French, president of the National War Mothers, announced here to-day that her organization has completed arrangements whereby a special ship will be chartered during the first week in June of next year to carry American war mothers to view the battlefields and cemeteries of France and Belgium.

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STATE PROFITEERING ON 'VETS' CHARGED

Hospitals Accused of With-
holding Part of Funds Given
by Government.

SOME IN POORHOUSES

Surgeon-Gen. Cumming Asks
Removal of Men to Public
Health Service Places.

Special Dispatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

New York Herald Bureau, Washington, D. C., Dec. 17.

Charges that New York State hospitals are profiteering on amounts allowed them by the Government for rehabilitation of wounded men were made before the House Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds to-day by H. H. Raeger of the national legislative committee of the American Legion.

He charged that the legion had found that while the Government was paying the State about \$3 a day to care for these men, the actual cost to the State had been cut to about 90 cents. Some wounded men are being cared for in county poor houses, Mr. Raeger declared. Surgeon-General Cumming of the Public Health Service substantiated in part the charges of the legion representative and joined with him in recommending that all wounded men now in State hospitals be removed to institutions of the Public Health Service.

The committee also reported the bill approving the recommendation of Secretary of the Treasury Houston that he be authorized to lease a \$5,000,000 hospital to be constructed by the State on the site of the Long Island State Hospital in Queens Borough, N. Y. Under the tentative agreement recommended by the Secretary the Government would lease the institution for a period not to exceed ten years at 10 per cent. of the cost.

In charging that proper care was not now being given the wounded soldiers in the hospitals in New York and Illinois, Mr. Raeger said:

"The Government is paying New York from \$2.50 to \$3.50 a day to maintain, treat, clothe and house its ex-service men. Out of this the State is paying for this purpose about 90 cents a day, the difference amounting to hundreds of thousands of dollars annually, going to the State treasury. And it is money made by giving the soldiers less than the Bureau of War Risk Insurance pays for it. It is a very profitable business—no doubt about it. If it were a private institution, not the State, nothing would ever be done to discontinue it. In New York there are 800 of these men—all mental cases."

SENATE WARNED TO CUT FURTHER EXPENDITURE

Must Reduce Tax Burdens,
Two Members Declare.

Special Dispatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

New York Herald Bureau, Washington, D. C., Dec. 17.

For a second time within a week the Senate was warned to-day that it must put a stop where possible to authorizations for further expenditures of Government funds if tax burdens are to be reduced, and the Treasury kept on a sound financial basis.

The first warning was issued by Senator McCumber (Md.), acting chairman of the Finance Committee. To-day Senator Warren (Wyo.), chairman of the Appropriations Committee, opposing an appropriation of \$3,000,000 for reducing infant mortality, reminded his colleagues that the country has a funded debt of \$24,000,000,000, a floating debt of more than \$2,500,000,000, and that estimates submitted by the Department heads total about \$7,000,000,000.

"We cannot find funds enough for these estimates," said Mr. Warren, "without raising the present rate of taxation. We must greatly reduce appropriations or increase our present load of indebtedness."

"In my opinion, we are going to be without credit in this nation. Our bonds are going much lower and we are going to have to pay larger interest on certificates of indebtedness unless we are able to retrench very sharply."

AMNESTY MOVEMENT BEGUN.

ORERLIN, Ohio, Dec. 17.—A movement to petition President Wilson to grant amnesty Christmas to all Federal political prisoners held under the espionage act has been inaugurated by Dr. Henry Churchill King, president of Oberlin College. Restoration of free speech, press and assembly also is urged.

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Rail Fares Deductible From Travellers' Taxes

Special Dispatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

New York Herald Bureau, Washington, D. C., Dec. 17.

A NEW stunt in bookkeeping is given to travelling men and Congressmen by a Treasury decision announced to-day by Commissioner of Internal Revenue Williams. The decision holds in effect that all persons who travel on business may deduct as expenses for tax purposes only the amount expended in excess of those which they would spend if at home. Very circumstantial and detailed reports must be made as to the expenses deducted.

The decision holds that railroad fares and similar items are legitimate deductions from income, but that meals are not, unless the amount spent for them is in excess of what would have been spent at home. It likewise holds that Congressmen and others who receive a mileage allowance must return as income all of the allowance not spent on the deductible items.

G. O. P. CAUCUS DECIDES ON REAPPORTIONMENT

Increase in Size of House to
483 Possible.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—Republican members of the House at a caucus to-night decided to put through at this session of Congress a bill reapportioning the membership of the House to correspond with increases in population as reported in the 1920 census.

The definite basis for the reapportionment was understood not to have been decided on at the caucus, but most of the Republican members were said to favor a reasonable increase in the House membership.

Drafting of a reapportionment bill would be in the hands of the Census Committee, which Representative Siegel of New York is chairman. Mr. Siegel already has prepared and introduced a bill increasing the House membership from the present 435 to 483, and this bill is expected to be the basis for the reapportionment legislation.

The Siegel bill would make the population basis for a Congressional district between 218,000 and 219,000. Instead of approximately 211,000, as at present. Under the measure no State would suffer a loss of its representation in the House and twenty-five states would gain representation.

TUMULTU REFUSES JUDGESHIP.

Declines Wilson's Offer: Will Practice Law in Washington.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—Joseph P. Tumulty, secretary to President Wilson, announced to-day that he had declined the appointment as a Chief Justice of the Court of Customs Appeal, which had been offered to him by the President, and that he would begin the practice of law in Washington, D. C., on Monday.

Mr. Tumulty said he had no doubt of his confirmation by the Senate, as he had received assurances from leading Republicans that there would be no impediment placed in the way of it.

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ties on Wheat, Cotton, Wool,
Beans, Potatoes and Meats.

EMBARGO PLAN DROPPED

Measure, to Run a Year, Will
Be Rushed—War Finance
Revival Unaffected.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—Congress leaders decided to-day that the way out of the maze of farmer relief bills was enactment of an emergency tariff to run for one year and to act as an embargo against importations. It would apply to wheat, cotton, wool, beans, potatoes, live stock and meats.

Agreement was reached at a joint conference of members of the Senate Finance and the House Ways and Means committees, at which the determination also was reached to press the proposed measure to speedy passage. Actual drafting of the bill was started later by members of the Ways and Means Committee.

Much discussion was evoked in the conference relative to a choice between a flat embargo and high tariff, but the House leaders held out against the employment of a ban on importations in peace time, urging that the age old custom of no embargoes except in time of war be followed. Senate members declared that an embargo measure could be passed in their branch of Congress more easily than a high tariff bill, but they finally agreed to push the measure through as soon as it was received from the House.

Rates to be embodied in the tariff measure were not directly discussed. Members of the House committee that will draft the bill were informed that the rates would be left entirely to them and that whatever they were able to have passed by the House the Senate conferees would try to keep intact. The conference attempted no decision on the rates, fearing that such a discussion might cause a breach and the destruction of the whole programme.

A tentative bill by Representative Greene, Republican (Iowa), has been virtually accepted as the basis for the measure.

These six Senators and five Representatives attended the conference: Senators McCumber (N. Dak.), Smoot (Utah), Curtis (Kan.) and Watson (Ind.), Republicans, and Simmons (N. C.) and Nugent (Idaho), Democrats. Representatives Fordney (Mich.), chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, and Longworth (Ohio) and Greene (Iowa), Republicans, and Rainey (Ill.) and Garner (Texas), Democrats.

It was believed the action of the House leaders would not change plans to pass the Senate resolution to revive the War Finance Corporation. This proposition was described as being aside from the particular problems which the House and Senate are trying to solve in shielding the farmer from falling prices.

SHIPBUILDERS IN U. S. BREAK PRE-WAR MARK

Launching in Last Fiscal Year
Total 3,880,639 Tons.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—American shipbuilders broke the world's pre-war record of launching during the last fiscal year, according to figures given in the annual report of the Commissioner of Navigation, made public to-day. American ships built and documented during the year aggregated 3,880,639 gross tons, the report said, adding that British ships under construction June 30, 1920, aggregated 3,808,050 tons.

American shipyards reached a rate of 4,258,141 gross tons a year to the end of December, 1919, the report shows. At the end of March, 1920, they had built steel ships alone at the rate of 3,479,285 tons a year, a small portion of this being foreign tonnage.

American tonnage sufficient to carry 60 per cent. of the foreign trade of the United States, had been registered July 1. During the year they actually carried 45 per cent. in value of the exports from the United States, and 39 per cent. of the imports, the report said. In 1914 American ships carried but 19 per cent. of this country's exports and imports.

One-half of the officers and crews of American ships engaged in foreign trade are American citizens, a condition that has not existed for a third of a century, the report further says.

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